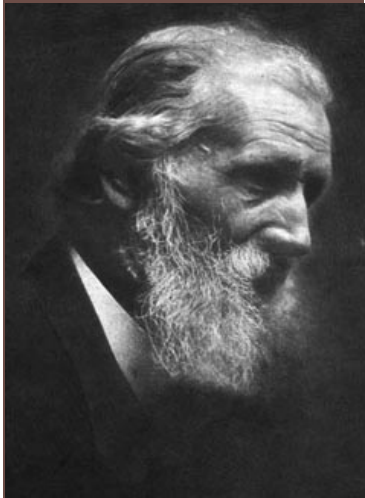




The View

SPRING 2011

*My birthday – I am told
the fifty-seventh, and yet
I feel only a boy. Must
make haste and get my
work done ere the night
falls. Made an excursion
with the babes to Mount
Wanda—John Muir,
John of the Mountains*



The mission of the John Muir Association is to celebrate the life, share the vision, and preserve the legacy of John Muir through education, preservation, advocacy and stewardship, in partnership with the National Park Service at the John Muir National Historic Site.

Saunter by Muir’s House April 16th for the John Muir Birthday–Earth Day Celebration



Tom Zamaria

Each year this wonderful celebration of John Muir’s birthday and Earth Day attracts more enthusiastic guests! Come celebrate with us—bring the family for our many fun-filled activities and entertainment:



Zara McDonald

- Keynote speaker Zara McDonald from Felidae Conservation Fund talks about wild cats!
- More than 50 exhibitors with something for everyone
- Live music
- Recycled Fashion Show
- Silent auctions
- Self-guided tours of the Muir home and California Native Plant Garden
- Junior Ranger projects with National Park Service rangers
- “John Muir” shares stories and cake
- Guided nature stroll with Doc Hale

Food and beverages are available for purchase. New this year—come rain or shine!



Tom Zamaria

The Celebration is presented by the John Muir Association and the National Park Service. This event is made possible by our great sponsors: the City of Martinez; Shell Oil Products, US Martinez Refinery; Cal Organics; and Allied Waste.

Visit www.johnmuirassociation.org for more information. The John Muir National Historic Site is located at 4202 Alhambra Avenue at Highway 4 in Martinez, California. For directions, visit www.nps.gov/jomu.

Free parking at the Alhambra High School and Martinez Adult Education; shuttles are provided.



**Saturday, April 16
10 a.m. to 4 p.m.**

Visit www.johnmuirassociation.org
or call the Muir Site (925) 228-8860
for more information.



John Muir Association
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John Muir National Historic Site
4202 Alhambra Ave., Martinez
National Park Service
www.nps.gov/jomu

Tom Leatherman,
General Superintendent

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Special Thanks to Our John Muir Birthday–Earth Day Celebration Sponsors . . .



Transitions

Nancy Schaefer



A long-time board member and Vice President, Nancy has left the John Muir Association to spend more time pursuing some of her other life

passions. Nancy was a hard-working Executive Committee member whose contributions included: Chair for the John Muir Birthday-Earth Day Celebration, Chair of the Fundraising Committee, chief planner for our Spotlight Muir! Awards Celebration and so much more. Nancy was our chief fundraiser and her successes in garnering support have made our many events and programs possible. Her tireless work on the board has made JMA better. She will be missed, but she has promised to lend her cheerful presence to many of our events.

Gary Noy

We enjoyed having Gary on the board for the limited time he was able to participate. His new position as the Editor-in-Chief of Sierra College Press meant he had to resign with the “greatest, greatest regret” because, in his words, he “could not devote the time that JMA deserves. I strongly support the JMA mission and future projects, I am grateful for the short time I spent on the JMA Board.” We wish Gary the best on his new endeavor.

Tom Leatherman

We are pleased to announce that Tom Leatherman is the new General Superintendent of the John Muir National Historic Site, as well as three other parks: Eugene O’Neill National Historic Site, Port Chicago Naval Magazine National Memorial and Rosie the Riveter WWII Home Front National Historic Park. The JMA Board is delighted he has received this well-deserved promotion.

Note from the New Superintendent

It has been great working with the John Muir Association as the Deputy Superintendent for the last 2 ½ years.



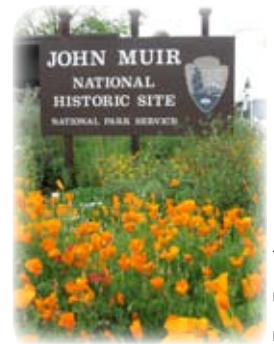
Now, as the new Superintendent, I am eager to continue our strong partnership. Most visible will be our collaboration on the Visitor Center renovations, which would not have been possible without a significant monetary contribution from the John Muir Association. We are also excited about the big Birthday–Earth Day Celebration on April 16. Please join us in the festivities and see the changes on the site, first hand.

Tom Leatherman

Wait For It—A New Visitor Center Experience

By Ralph Bell, Acting Deputy Superintendent

The much-anticipated remodel of the John Muir National Historic Site’s Visitor Center began at the end of February by AP Construction. Plans include removing and reconfiguring several walls to allow a larger space for interpretive displays and the bookstore. In addition, the visitor reception desk will be moved to a central location.



Tom Zamaria

A host of environmentally driven decisions were considered for this remodel. The flooring and woodwork will be both sustainable and responsibly harvested products. The toilets will have dual flush capabilities. Point-of-contact water heaters have been specified, as well as LED lighting with motion sensor activation, recycled content carpeting and low/no VOC paints.

An additional restroom will be added and all restrooms will be upgraded to current ADA standards. The exit doors to the site will be reconfigured to allow smoother access to and from the building, and the employees will have much more efficient work stations.

On the outside of the building, plans are under way to give the California Native Plant Garden a facelift. Upon completion of the outside construction, native plants will be replanted around the building, and native grasses will

be planted between Alhambra Avenue and the parking lot. We hope to have this project completed by our busy summer season. This project was made possible through a generous cooperative effort with the John Muir Association.



Dunbar-Martinez 30th Twinning Anniversary

By Will Collin, Trustee, John Muir’s Birthplace

Dunbar and Martinez, California, were ‘twinned’ in 1981. On 18 April of that year, Martinez Mayor Eric Schaefer read the proclamation declaring Martinez and Dunbar “sister cities,” the American terminology. The twinning of Dunbar and Martinez was due to links with John Muir, the former being his birthplace and the latter being his home from his marriage in 1880 to his death on Christmas Eve 1914. The twinning is a civic link, not simply a John Muir one. There are benefits for many areas of our two towns and surrounding districts, for example in education, cultural exchanges and tourism.

To recognize the 30th Anniversary of the Dunbar-Martinez sister cities link, Friends of John Muir’s Birthplace, supported by the John Muir Birthplace Trust, have initiated an exchange of greetings between the two cities. In addition, Dunbar officials propose to send letters to schools, churches, history societies, Rotary clubs, Masonic lodges, senior citizen organisations, Dunbar traders and Martinez Chamber of Commerce, and other pairings.

The John Muir Association and John Muir’s Birthplace will exchange greetings at the John Muir Birthday-Earth Day Celebration. Learn more about John Muir’s Birthplace at www.jmbt.org.uk.—Editor

Note from the President

By JoAnne Dunec

We are pleased to let everyone know that the capital campaign funds are finally being put to use to renovate the Visitor Center at the John Muir National Historic Site. The National Park Service was able to procure federal appropriations and with our contribution of funds, the renovation was able to be undertaken and is well under way. Thanks to all who contributed funds to the capital campaign! The renovated Visitor Center and new exhibits about John Muir will enhance each visitor’s park experience and offer new and exciting ways to learn about John Muir’s home, his life and his legacy.



P.O. Box 2433
Martinez, CA 94553

John Muir Mountain Day Camp— Our 9th Year!

Our one-of-a-kind camp is open for registration, so don't hesitate. Every child should experience the wonderful, hands-on crafts, activities and adventures waiting for them, but we only have room for 30 per session. Our two one-week camps will be held: August 1 through August 5 and August 8 through August 12.



Camp is Monday through Friday, from 8:30 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. Children from 8 to 12 years of age are welcome, and scholarships and discounts are available. Sign up your children, grandchildren, nieces, and nephews—and tell their friends.

John Muir Mountain Day Camp is sponsored by the John Muir Association and the National Park Service, and is held in the orchards of the John Muir National Historic Site, 4202 Alhambra Avenue (at Hwy 4), Martinez, CA 94553.

Visit www.muircamp.org for more information. Contact JMA at (925) 229-3857 or jma@johnmuirassociation.org.



Robert Perry

Noted author and NPS ranger Shelton Johnson was our phenomenal Keynote Speaker at the 2010 Spotlight Muir! Awards Celebration. Mark your calendars for this year's awe-inspiring evening on November 5 at the Campbell Theatre.
A must-see event!

Check out our website at
www.johnmuirassociation.org